Madurai, Trichy, Erode, Tirupur and Salem to be commissioned by 1993.

(b) Medium capacity electronic exchanges at 4 towns to be commissioned by 1993.

(c) Small capacity electronic exchanges at 59 towns to be commissioned by 1993.

Production of Oil and Gas at the Cauvery Basin

2050. SHRI T.R. BALU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of oil wells dug so far at Cauvery Basin and also amount spent by ONGC for developing Cauvery Basin to date;

(b) what is the depth of each well and oil and gas produced by each well since its commissioning;

(c) what is the type of crude oil and gas available from each well;

(d) how many more exploratory wells are being presently dug at Cauvery Basin alongwith the depth of each well; and

(e) whether Tamil Nadu Govt. has approached the Central Government to set up an oil refinery at Thanjavur; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (c) ONGC have so far drilled 55 wells onland and 28 offshore in Cauvery basin. Out of these, hydrocarbons have been discovered in 20 wells onland and 8 in offshore. Currently oil/gas is being produced from wells in Narimanam, Bhuvanagiri and Kovilkalappal through Early Production System The time and labour involved in collection of information about depth of each well, type of hydrocarbons available will not be commensurate with the purpose sought to be achieved.

An expenditure of Rs. 175.49 crores (excluding depreciation) has been incurred by ONGC on exploratory/development drilling — both onland and offshore in Cauvery basin upto 31st March, 1988.

(d) Seven wells are presently under drilling. The details of these are as under:—

Well No.	Depth (M) *(As on 28.2.89)*
ONLAND	
1 Adiyakkamanglam	17
2. Narimanam-13	856
3 Narimanam-14	510
4. Tirukalar-3	800
5. Bhuvanagiri-1	3745
OFFSHORE	
6. PY-3-9	2129
7. PY-3-6	2985

Besides, in the onland part of the Cauvery basin two wells Narimanam-10 (depth 2370 M) and Komarakshri (depth 5151 M) are under production testing and rig-building/rig dismantling in progress at two wells viz., Narimanam-12 and Sattapadi-1.

(e) Government have asked Madras Refinery Limited to prepare a detailed Feasibility Report for setting up necessary primary facilities for processing the crude produced in the Cauvery Basin. Preliminary estimate of the project cost is Rs. 94 crores. The capacity is to absorb 0.5 Million tonnes of crude oil.

Fire in pong dam power house complex

2051. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:
SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently a major fire broke out at the Pong Dam Power House Complex,